

the size of the urban area. They are generally spaced one-half mile to one mile apart, depending on the intensity of land use.

A bypass is designed to carry traffic through or around the urban area, thus providing relief to the city street system by removing traffic that has no desire to be in the city. Bypasses are usually designed to through-highway standards, with control of access. Occasionally, a bypass with low traffic volume can be designed to function as a portion of an urban loop. The general effect of bypasses is to expedite the movement of through traffic and to improve traffic conditions within the city. Bypasses tend to increase the economic vitality of the local area by removing through traffic and allowing the streets to be used for shopping and home-to-work traffic.

The concepts presented in the discussion of operational efficiency, functional classification, and idealized major thoroughfare system are the conceptual tools available to the transportation planner in developing a thoroughfare plan. In actual practice, a thoroughfare plan is developed for established patterns, existing public attitudes and goals, and current expectations of future land use. Compromises must be made because of these constraints and the many other factors that affect major street locations.